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BOOK ON CORN

1909

1909

FUNK BROS. SEED CO.

LARGEST
SEED CORN
BREEDERS
IN
THE WORLD

EIGHTY FIVE
- YEARS of -
CORN GROWING
IN ILLINOIS

SEED INTRODUCTION
AND DISTRIBUTION

JAN 11 1909

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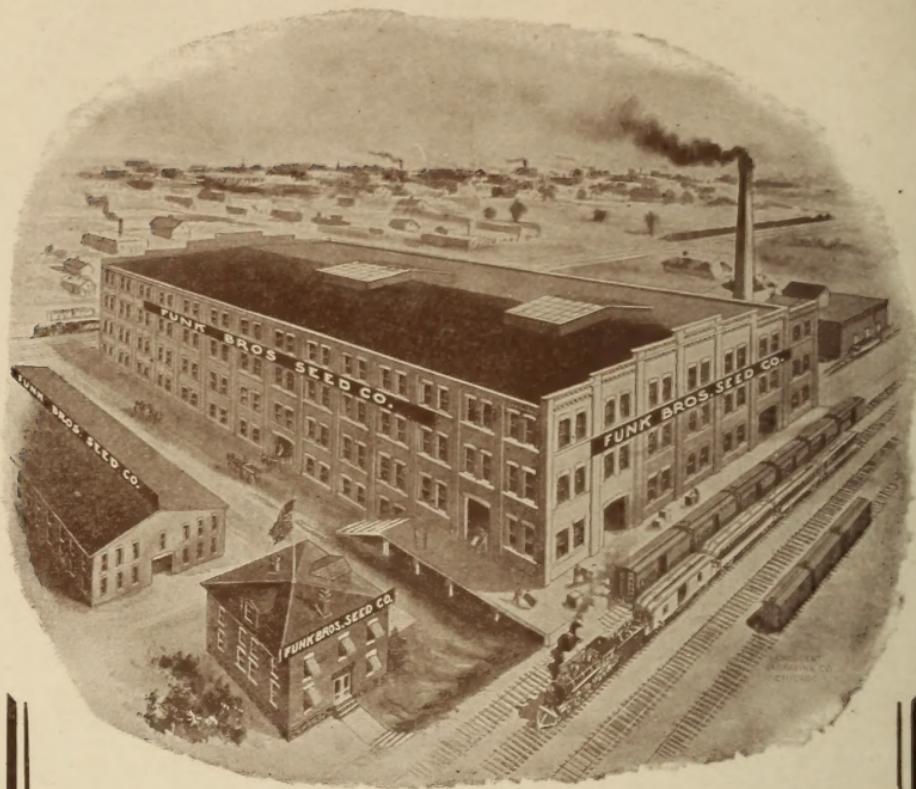
Bloomington, Ill.

New York, N.Y. Dallas, Texas.

175 Hudson St.

316 Trust Bldg.

Our New Warehouse and Business Offices



Located at Bloomington, Ill.

The location of our New Warehouse insures our customers of the lowest freight rates and quickest service

5 - Railroads - 5

**East and West - North and South
Quick service . no transfer charges**

**Chicago & Alton
Big Four
Lake Erie & Western
Illinois Central
Illinois Traction System**

Bloomington has the best freight rates in the state for either state or inter-state business

TERMS

While we exercise the greatest care to have our seeds pure, true and reliable, we do not give any warranty, expressed or implied, and are in no way responsible for the crop.

If the seeds are not fully satisfactory, they must be returned to us at once, at our expense, and money will be refunded.

SPECIAL

Previous to shipping, samples from each variety of corn, oats and other seeds are carefully tested for germination. We cannot send free samples of ear corn; the requests for same are too numerous. We prefer not to send samples of shelled corn if it can possibly be avoided. All goods are shipped subject to your approval on arrival. If they are not satisfactory, you return them to us AT OUR EXPENSE. Furthermore you have ten days in which to test them. If goods are not satisfactory to you, your money will be cheerfully refunded. A dissatisfied customer is not a good advertisement. This is better than having a sample.

Orders for less than a bushel cannot be accepted. Our corn is all packed in one and two bushel packages which cannot be broken on account of the seals.

Extra fancy ears of pedigreed corn will be sent postpaid for 50 cents each, if remittance accompanies order.

We request that our customers upon receipt of goods, will immediately open the boxes, examine contents carefully, and if not found entirely satisfactory, repack and return same to us in the original packages, AT OUR EXPENSE, and we will refund the money paid for the same.

Our seeds are shipped with the understanding that you may have ten days after their arrival to make such tests as you desire. If within that time they are found to be unsatisfactory, they are to be returned to us at once as explained above.

WE CANNOT RETURN MONEY FOR ANY ORDER THAT HAS BEEN IN YOUR HANDS LONGER THAN TEN DAYS.

Prices are F. O. B. Bloomington, Funks Grove, Illinois, New York, New York, or Dallas, Texas.

REMITTANCE MUST ACCOMPANY EACH ORDER.

Boxes and bags are free.

Ear corn 70 pounds per bushel, net.

Shelled corn 56 pounds per bushel, net.

YOUR MONEY REFUNDED IF SEEDS ARE NOT SATISFACTORY.

NO RISK OR LOSS TO YOU.

We make every effort to fill orders the same day as received. If you wish to hold yours in our seed house until planting time, kindly advise us to that end.

Owing to the demand for our seed corn which we have as yet never been able to fill, we must limit sales to single parties to twenty bushels of crate corn and fifty bushels of shelled corn.

FUNK BROS. SEED CO.

New York, N.Y. BLOOMINGTON, ILL. Dallas, Tex.

175 Hudson St,

Trust Bldg.

Our Improvements



In spite of the adverse weather, rain, drought, hot winds, etc. the corn on the Funk Farms this season yielded from 50 to 94 bushels per acre.

Pedigreed corn proved its fitness this year better than ever before. Many of our fields which from the time they were planted, until they were harvested, did not receive more than one-half inch of rain during the entire season, yielded from 30 to 50 bushels more than other corn on better ground. How is that for drought resistance?

We promised our customers we would offer them a new strain of higher yielding corn each year. We have reached that point.

In 1902 we made the statement that some day we would be able to offer each year a strain of corn in each variety a little bit better than the strain preceding it; but up to this year we have only been able to make this good in part. Now however we can "make good" in every particular.

Our first offering under this new system is **strain 76A** in The Funks Yellow Dent variety, which, owing to the combination of the best strains with hand pollinated ears and new strains, is several bushels better in yield than **strains 205 and 119**.

On page 15 will be found a pedigree of **strain 76A** showing the different blood lines that have been worked together to make this new corn.

Our old customers will profit by replacing old strains with this new blood. Our new customers—their profit will be larger because of the difference between our corn plus the new strain, and—the other corn which they have been growing.

WE have made improvement in both the drying and storing systems. Our dryer we increased to a capacity of three thousand bushels per day; and even now we are afraid we haven't enough corn to go around. Our system of drying is perfect.

We have acquired just twice the capacity for storage that we had last year. All of this store room is steam heated, and as the corn is dried to 8% moisture before being put away, the danger of having it damaged is reduced to absolutely nothing.

ANOTHER improvement we have made is in our shipping package. Previous to last year we believed that the slatted crate made the best carrying package possible. But with the installation of our drying process, we observed that there was an increased loss to our customers on account of the shelling off of a large percentage of corn shipped in crates. This year our package will be an **absolutely tight box**, bound with wire and **sealed at four points** with our own private lead seal, stamped with our initials. As the device on this seal is copyrighted, it cannot be imitated under penalty of the law.

We have received positive information during the past year that certain dealers have been selling other corn than ours under the name of Funk Bros. **None is genuine** unless the bag is branded with our brand and sealed with our lead seal. If you contemplate buying of some dealer or agent, it would be wise for you to write us and have his authority verified.

THE demand for Funk Bros. High Yielding Seed Corn has become so great in the south-west and east that we have been obliged to establish branch offices in Dallas, Texas, and New York City. Inquiries from any of the adjacent territories should be addressed to these offices to insure prompt replies. All shipments destined to points nearer to New York or Dallas than to Bloomington will be made from either of the above named warehouses. This of course means a large saving in freight to you.

Never before have we had better corn. This year the breeding is more perfect, the germination is higher and the selection more strict. We offer you more inducements than ever before to **increase your yield of corn** and likewise your profit per acre.

FUNK BROS. SEED CO.

Breeding vs. Selection

WHEN we announce in our advertisements that we are "the largest seed corn breeders in the world," we might well add and with every regard to the truth "the **only** commercial seed corn breeders in the world." For when we use the words "seed corn breeders" we use it in its broadest sense, meaning "those who work for practical results through scientific methods."

"Straight selection" of desirable **looking** ears is not corn breeding. In fact the man who seeks to increase his yield per acre has made only the first and most primitive step when he selects fancy ears for his breeding block. We will illustrate to you further on how and why we know this to be true, that there is no co-relation between fancy type and yield per acre.

Selection of strains by the row method is only a step beyond unless it be followed by other processes more accurate, more scientific and more definite.

It is foolish to think that corn, a cross fertilized plant, can be bred accurately and true by simple selection.

An ordinarily large sized ear has something over a thousand kernels. Each kernel fertilized by a different parent. How then can any strain of corn be pure unless the parents, both male and female, have been controlled absolutely in their acts of fertilization. These are only a few of the many things that a "corn breeder" must overcome. More of them will be described further on in this catalogue.

We claim to be "the only commercial seed corn breeders in the world," because no other seed house can show absolute and accurate data, in connection with any breeding work done under their own directions nor by their own employees.



30 Prize Ears, Only 6 of Which Proved to be High Yielding.

We have won our pre-eminence fairly and squarely, not by advertising but by results, by producing strains of corn that have made good in the keenest competitions under other soil and climatic conditions than those of Illinois. The following is a sample of some of the competition we have been up against and speaks for itself.

Messrs. Funk Bros., Bloomington, Ill.

Schellsburg, Pa., Oct. 20, 1908.

Gentlemen:—I planted last year a couple of ears of corn that were sent to me by the Farm News with printed pedigree of 119.8 bushel. Please quote me a price on your corn of this sort, by the bushel of shelled corn and by the bushel of ears, if you sell also in the latter way. I am trying to get new strains of corn here, and out of twelve tried out last year, and a number of local strains tested

yours has made the best record. The matter has been a public test, in a way, as the various corns were planted on 12 different farms. It is not unlikely that there will be considerable demand for your corn, therefore, and I would like to get a quotation that would enable me to carry it along with my other lines of seeds, at some profit. However I want the corn, profit or no profit. It is too good to miss.

Yours truly, A. B. ROSS.

To the average layman it is necessary that we explain our system of breeding most fully in order that no points be overlooked to convince him that our methods are **real**, not fictitious, that our purpose is genuine, not mere advertising. So let us begin at the basis of all improvement in corn—namely variation.

Variation:—Were it not for variation either natural or artificial, plant improvement of any kind would be impossible. If all plants were of the same form, size or vigor, there would be no best or poorest, for all would be the same. There must be variation in order to make a selection of the best. In self fertilized plants such as oats, variation must be created by hybridization. In corn it is already created by the thousands of years of cross fertilization.

Our first step in corn breeding must therefore be the selection of those types which we suppose to be the best. In this there is absolutely nothing to guide us. One of the first great laws of reproduction is that "like begets like." This can apply, however, only in cases where the inherent tendencies have been governed for generation after generation, and even then sometimes go wide of the mark. A breeder of the purest strains of cattle cannot always be sure that the offspring of his best cow, sired by a champion bull, is not going to be a "throwback" resembling in form and color some unheard of ancestor altogether different from either parent.

In corn we may select a champion ear, perfect as to kernel formation, symmetrical in shape, heavy, weighing 16, 18 or 20 oz., but there is absolutely no more chance than 1 in a 1000 that the progeny of this ear will have even one ear resembling the parent ear.



The photograph on this page illustrates the point to perfection. The ears planted in these two rows were as nearly alike as is possible to select two ears of corn.

The breeding however was different. The row on the left was planted from an ear selected from a high yielding strain of regular stock seed corn. The row on the right was one of ten ears selected from the prize bushel, which won everything in sight at the National Corn Exposition, 1907. The yield of the row on the left was 77 bushels per acre, of the prize ear row 60 bushels per acre. To further emphasize the point that there is no relation between appearance and yield, we give you the result of an experiment performed by us this year.

Last fall at the National Corn Exposition we obtained fifteen of the best ears from the 1st prize bushel of Boone County White corn, a bushel which was considered a marvel of its kind, and so it was, as far as uniformity, type, symmetry and the points of the score card go.

We selected ten ears from the fifteen that were nearly perfect in every score card point. Then we selected ten ears of our own growing from our regular warehouse stock which would match these ears in size, weight and similar points. The twenty ears were planted side by side in a special plot alternating first ours and then the prize corn.

The following table gives the result more graphically than it can be described:

Row No.	Yield Per Acre	Yield Per Acre	
1	69.5	Prize Corn	Average for 10 rows Regular Stock Seed, 69.8 bu. per acre.
2	68.		
3	69.		
4	60.		
5	72.		
6	65.		
7	72.5		Average for 10 rows Prize Corn, 64.15 bu. per acre.
8	65.5		
9	66.		
10	71.		
11	77.		Increase of our regular stock seed over first prize bushel of show corn, 5.65 bushels per acre.
12	65.		
13	69.		
14	62.		
15	70.		
16	62.		
17	59.		
18	63.		
19	74.		
20	60.		

Compare the results—ten ears of high yielding corn selected from regular stock seed gave 5.65 bushels more per acre than the **best** ten ears in the **best** bushel of prize corn at the National Corn Exposition.

At the same ratio a bushel of our corn is worth just \$20.34 more than **any prize bushel that can be procured**. A bushel of our corn plants 6 acres, raises 5.65 bushels more per acre than this prize corn and sells at 60c per bushel. This does not estimate any additional value if sold by the grower for seed purposes in his neighborhood. So much for selection for fancy points.

It is better, nevertheless, to select the breeding corn from large, heavy ears, cylindrical in shape, carrying the grain to the tip without dropping rows, not because they are show ears but because ears of this type denote a stronger, more vigorous constitution than the small, irregular, broken-down ears of less showy type.

That is the most we can do by simple selection, select **the best looking** ears on the one point of constitution. But we may expect before planting that 90% of these **best looking** ears will prove failures as high yielding mother ears, because the chances are that 90% of them have grown under favorable circumstances, probably one stalk in the hill.



Showing How the Product of Each Row is Harvested Separately.

The next step after making a selection of ears is to test these ears for yield per acre, the one really vital point in corn breeding.

Each ear or rather $\frac{1}{2}$ of each ear is planted in a row to itself. This is done by hand, three kernels being placed in each hill.

The wisdom of saving one-half of each ear is easily seen. Suppose that in a breeding block containing 100 rows or ears there should develop one or more remarkable rows. If the seed of this ear had all been planted, the progeny of this ear having been planted with 99 other ears of indifferent propensities would be so badly mixed as to be worthless, but as we have the original mother ear with one-half of the kernels still unmixed, it is a simple matter to plant these kernels in an isolated plot and preserve the strain pure.

After planting, the 100 rows in the breeding block are given exactly the same care and cultivation. There must be no special favors shown to any one row or group of rows in the way of plowing or hoeing.

A check row is planted every fifth row in order to observe any variation in the fertility of the soil.

At harvest time these rows must all be shucked at the same time and the product of each row weighed carefully.

CORN REGISTER												Distance between hills - in feet										
OF EARS PLANTED AND ROWS HARVESTED												Number of hills in row										
IN SEASON OF 1903																						
DESCRIPTION OF INDIVIDUAL SEED EARS												PERFORMANCE RECORD OF FIELD ROWS										
Number of Rows	Number of Ears	Row No.	Date Planted	Ear No.	Length of Ear	Weight of Ear	Percent Germination	Percent Yield	Root Circumference	Root Depth	Root Weight	Length of Ear	Weight of Ear	Percent Germination	Percent Yield	Root Circumference	Root Depth	Root Weight	Length of Ear	Weight of Ear	Percent Germination	Percent Yield
8-111 201	8-111	780	9-25	7-10	7-40	22	55	.57	4-50	1-75	3-95	4-30	11-35	195	1	378	415	26-4	378	14-2		
P-202 202	P-202	0	765	9-30	7-50	4-10	23	.60	7-75	2-50	4-00	4-85	11-05	150	2	249	236	73-3	260	15-2		
P-203 203	P-203	0	767	9-30	7-20	7-90	24	.57	6-60	2-10	3-95	4-60	11-18	192	3	368	301	85-3	360	15-1		
P-216 204	P-216	214	7-30	8-00	7-75	8-10	22	.57	6-63	2-00	2-45	4-20	4-05	10-97	152	4	489	467	07-8	464	11-40	
P-218 205	P-218	711	9-40	8-00	8-50	24	55	.68	20-00	2-15	10-10	4-65	12-07	153	5	730	273	185-7	288	18-7		
P-218 206	P-218	316	7-16	9-50	7-40	7-80	22	.57	6-62	1-50	1-85	3-80	4-75	13-08	172	6	334	299	86-2	314	17-0	
PH104 207	PH104	726	8-15	6-50	7-20	20	53	.50	3-70	1-75	3-50	3-90	14-37	199	7	434	512	96-4	467	14-8		
PH104 208	PH104	730	8-60	7-00	7-20	20	54	.56	3-80	1-90	3-50	3-70	11-31	201	8	470	484	04-0	358	11-25		
P-208 209	P-208	0	790	9-30	7-80	7-75	20	.68	6-62	1-75	2-05	4-15	4-25	11-68	181	9	347	375	46-8	381	14-5	
PH104 210	PH104	563	9-30	7-25	7-40	18	50	.56	6-00	2-00	3-85	4-50	11-20	187	10	317	372	75-1	397	12-9		
PH136 211	PH136	712	9-30	7-50	8-00	20	53	.58	17-50	2-15	4-20	4-75	12-75	136	11	234	196	77-7	238	15-7		
PH108 212	PH108	756	9-30	7-45	7-90	20	53	.57	14-20	2-40	4-25	4-50	14-01	191	12	405	420	12-9	479	11-10		
PH101 213	PH101	728	9-50	7-90	8-00	20	58	.62	17-25	2-10	4-10	4-25	11-50	173	13	386	367	99-1	362	17-0		
PH100 214	PH100	724	9-25	7-45	7-75	18	56	.62	16-20	2-00	3-90	4-45	11-73	182	14	323	304	78-6	298	17-6		
PH134 215	PH134	701	8-80	8-12	7-75	20	59	.60	17-50	2-15	3-75	4-75	11-02	171	15	392	400	01-7	402	11-63		
PH136 216	PH136	917	9-00	7-90	8-50	22	50	.57	19-20	3-20	4-10	4-30	15-48	169	16	378	331	99-1	350	17-2		
PH113 217	PH113	760	9-10	7-15	7-40	20	49	.53	15-20	2-20	3-15	4-45	10-95	186	17	392	400	93-3	372	16-8		
P-216 218	P-216	0	766	9-75	7-20	7-45	22	50	.56	17-10	2-20	4-15	4-45	11-47	190	18	560	556	99-5	416	17-1	
P-216 219	P-216	714	705	9-15	7-40	7-70	20	53	17-40	2-45	4-00	4-70	11-74	190	19	370	390	85-2	346	17-1		

In case some are skeptical that there is a variation in individual ears, we show on this page a photograph taken of a page from our record, a copy of which is on file at the University of Illinois for verification.

Once the breeding block has been harvested and the results carefully recorded, the next step is the selection of the champions. In breeding for yield per acre, these must necessarily be the highest yielding rows.



Showing Uniformity of Ears in a Champion Breeding Block



An Isolated Champion Breeding Block.

The next year, having preserved the half of these mother ears which have given the highest yields per acre, we plant these mother ears all in the same isolated breeding block.

In this breeding block, the undesirable strains have been eliminated so that all may cross freely. This of course does not mean that the strains are now all pure, but they are much purer than anything in the test breeding block, and thousands of times purer than anything grown in a general field from straight selected seed.

We must go a step further in this champion breeding toward obtaining a still more strict selection for the following year. This is the mating of individual stalks. In walking through a champion breeding block before the period of pollination, it is easy to see individual stalks in the same row and in the same hill that are stronger than their sister stalks. A rigid selection is made of these stalks, choosing only those that show the most vigorous under competitive conditions. The stalks are marked and at the period of fertilization are mated together. Thus we have a series of eliminations of the unfit. First, the elimination of the low yielding rows in the test breeding block. Second, an elimination of the low yielding rows in the champion breeding block, and third, an elimination of the poorer stalks in the champion rows of the champion breeding block and a combination of the best plants in the highest yielding rows of the champion breeding block. Could anything be more complete?

It would seem as though everything had been done to produce perfect seed corn, but in reality, we have only gotten a fair start.

The hand pollinated ears of mated stalks must now be grouped together in what we call our increase or multiplying fields, this for the purpose of obtaining sufficient seed for our general fields the following year.

But the seed for our general fields must undergo a strict selection before it can earn the right to grow seed corn for our customers.

When the multiplying or increase plots begin to show the first signs of ripening, men are sent into plots to select **only the ears growing under competitive conditions**. This means that one and two stalk hills are absolutely disregarded. **The hill must contain three stalks.** An ear to be planted in the general field must first be found in a hill containing three or more stalks, and furthermore it must show by its size, weight and vigor that it is stronger than the other two ears in the hill. Three ears of equal size, unless they were all exceptionally large and strong, would be passed by.

The following results obtained by Prof. Williams of the Ohio Station show somewhat the value of this selection, although we do not believe that the selection made by him was as strict as that which we have just described:

Plot No.	Method of Selection	Yield Per Acre in Bushels
49	Ordinary	68.64
50	Plant	76.57
51	Plant	70.56
52	Ordinary	68.53
55	Ordinary	69.07
56	Plant	71.43
57	Plant	71.43
58	Ordinary	70.82
Average of plant selection plots		72.49
Average of ordinary selection plots		69.26
Gain for plant selection		3.23



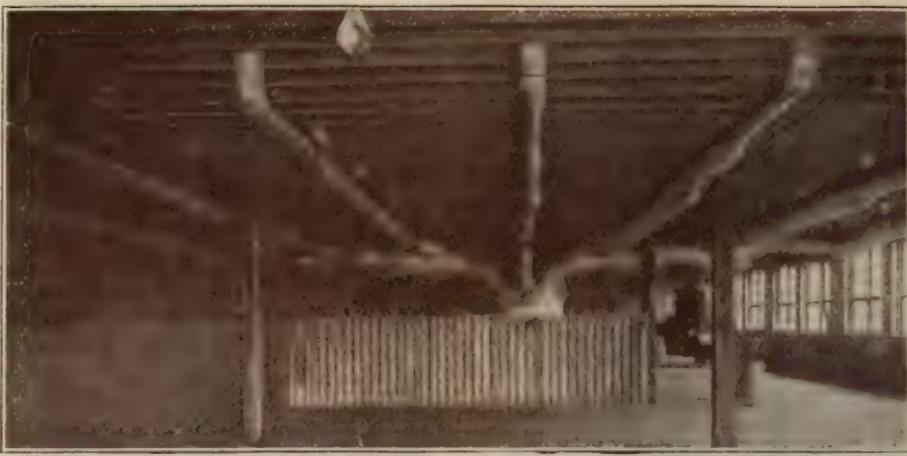
Showing Comparison of Three Ears on Three Stalks, and Four Ears on Three Stalks.

We now have the seed for our general fields, which are planted much the same as all corn fields are planted, except that great care is exercised in obtaining a perfect stand so that there will be a minimum of large sized ears which have grown under favorable circumstances—namely, one stalk to the hill. When these general fields show the first signs of ripening, we start the picking of the seed corn which we sell to our customers. Only the largest, heaviest ears are selected for this purpose. The best 2% are packed in boxes and are shipped on the ear. The second 10% to 15% are shelled and shipped in bags.

So far we have dealt only with the **breeding** of High Yielding Seed Corn, now we wish to explain our methods of curing, storing and preparation for the seed corn trade.



Selecting Seed Corn.



System of Piping Air into Dryer.

The seed corn from the general fields as soon as harvested, is shipped to Bloomington on the ear.

Here the selection is made of the best 2% and the second best 10% to 15%, a selection which is made by experts and which is the strictest made by any seed house in the world.

As soon as this selection is made, the corn is placed in the dryer.

Our seed corn dryer is really one of the most wonderful pieces of our rather complicated machinery. In the first place, it enables us to harvest all of our seed corn before the frost has had a chance to injure it. This in itself is invaluable to our customers. It thoroughly dries the corn so that the grain contains less than 10% of moisture, and in the process does not injure the vitality, but instead makes a physical change in the composition of the kernel which causes an increase in the yield of from 9 to 37 bushels per acre.

We do not ask you to take our word for this but refer you to U. S. Farmers' Bulletin No. 239 and to the 1902 Yearbook published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and to the work of another Government expert who has given us the following report:

Method of Drying	Yield Per Acre
By artificial heat	77.1
Without heat	68.2
Selected from crib	39.2
Selected from shock	32.0
Gain of fire dried seed over air dried seed	8.9 bushels per acre
Gain of fire dried seed over crib selected seed	37.9 bushels per acre

From the dryer the ear or crate corn goes through one more rigid inspection, this principally for germination, as a few ears which are moldy at the cob but not on the surface may have slipped through the rigid inspection al-



Butting and Tipping Seed Corn by Machinery.

ready given it. When this is done the corn goes into a tight wooden box and because of its small moisture content, is absolutely secure from any damage.

In the top of each box of corn will be found a placard giving the Variety, Strain No., Germination, Packer's Name and Inspector's Initials. This serves as a perfect check on the contents of the box. (See pages 16 and 17.)

The seed corn that is to be shelled goes from the dryer to the butting and tipping machine, a picture of which is shown in this book. Here the butts



Big Irregular Kernels.

and tips of the ears are removed before the corn is shelled. The corn is also given a rigid examination for damaged kernels and ears found to contain them are discarded.

From the sheller the corn goes into a grading machine and all kernels not of a uniform size are eliminated, so that the corn when bagged is ready for the planter box.

The three pictures of kernels shown here describe graphically how the small and large kernels are discarded and only those of a uniform size retained.



Uniform Kernels for Planting.

The following table gives you some idea as to the value of having uniform kernels in the planter box:

No of Kernels Dropped	Middle Kernels Only	Whole Ear	Deep and Shallow Kernels Mixed	Deep Kernels Only	Shallow Kernels Only
1		1 time			2 times
2	8 times	6 times	5 times	4 times	2 times
3	92 times	66 times	75 times	92 times	95 times

We have endeavored to show you in the foregoing pages how we breed seed corn and why our strains must necessarily be the best in the world. We



Small and Broken Kernels.

know that you will increase your yield per acre by planting any of the varieties described in the following pages.

We have been asked, "Why do you charge \$5.00 for your ear corn and \$3.00 for the shelled corn?"

We charge more for our Ear Corn than Shelled Corn because of the difference in cost to us in handling, storing, and packing in sealed boxes.

We select the Ear Corn from the most vigorous plants (about 2%) in the entire field. After this is done very rigid inspections are made by high priced experts.

The man who is starting a breeding block must have the corn on the ear in order to make the competitive row tests.

The Shelled Corn selection is made from the next best, 10% to 15% of the remaining plants. This is also a strict selection and protects you from receiving "field-run" corn, which is the kind put out by nearly every other seed house but Funk Bros.

Both grades of our corn represent quality in its highest form.

Prof. A. T. Wiancko of the Purdue Experiment Station says in Bulletin No. 110:

"If seed corn be purchased, the price should be least considered. Corn that will yield 5 bushels more per acre is worth easily \$10.00 more per bushel."

Any variety of Funk Bros. corn will yield more than 5 bushels more per acre than the kind you are using now.

TESTIMONIALS FROM THOSE WHO HAVE PLANTED OUR SEED CORN TELL BETTER THAN WE CAN ABOUT ITS GREAT PRODUCING QUALITIES.

Van Wert, Ohio.

Gentlemen:—Your inquiry concerning the corn seed received and in reply will say that the yield was excellent. It made by weight 78 bushels per acre, matured thoroughly and I am well pleased with the results and well paid by getting the corn seed from you. Wishing you the best of success in your business, I remain,

H. W. EVANS.

La Fayette, Indiana, Nov. 7, 1908.

Gentlemen:—In reply to your letter will say we have very fine corn and a good quality. Our early corn will make 60 bushels. I could sell 50 bushels for seed if I wanted to take the trouble. Now we have 20 acres to husk. It is late but looks like it would make 70 bushels to the acre.

Truly yours, AARON WALLACE.

Ottawa, Illinois.

Gentlemen:—Replying to yours of recent date in regard to the seed corn bought from you last Spring, will say that it did fine. It matured and filled out almost to perfection. It yielded 76 bushels to the acre along side of the other seed that hardly made 50 bushels; we know of no difference but the seed; as it was planted at the same time and on the same kind of ground and tended the same way.

Respectfully, W. J. BUTLER.

Wilmington, Illinois.

Gentlemen:—Your letter of inquiry concerning the seed corn I bought of you last year received. In reply will say your corn yielded better than our home grown corn. Funk's Yellow Dent averaged 60 bushels per acre. The Ninety Day Corn about the same. The Corn was all thoroughly matured. The season not favorable for corn here. Thanking you for your interest in the matter, I am,

Yours truly, JOHN LINTON.

Tiskilwa, Illinois.

Gentlemen:—I beg to advise that my corn yielded better than that of my neighbors and matured thoroughly.

Truly yours, C. N. PETTEGREW.

Kirk, Kentucky.

Gentlemen:—I feel that I owe you a letter in regard to the seed corn I bought of you last Spring, two bushels of your Ninety Day Yellow Corn. I planted it the 12th of May and the 12th of August went in my field and was using out of it. I went into my field the 1st day of September and picked 20 ears and took it to our County Fair and won the Blue over several competitors. I think it is the best corn I ever raised. I have gathered my seed out of the field and my hogs are now enjoying the remainder. I sowed peas in the field, the last cultivation, and you know that I have a field of great feed for hogs. I gathered 100 bushels for seed and in the hundred I am sure that there was not ten ears of damaged corn. Hoping you success, I remain,

T. B. BEARD.

Welling, Okla.

Gentlemen:—In reply to your recent inquiry, I am pleased to say that the seed corn purchased from you last spring did extra well for the season. I have not gathered yet and cannot give the yield but it is the best in this locality.

Yours truly, C. C. SHOOK.

Pawhucky, Okla.

Gentlemen:—I had fine success with the seed purchased, considering the dry weather the yield was fine. The early corn matured in about 85 days and the latter in 100 days. Will yield about 40 bushels and stand dry weather the best of any corn I had.

Yours,

W. T. LEAHY.

Mill Creek, Okla.

Dear Sirs:—The corn seed gave me the very best satisfaction notwithstanding the bad season.

Yours truly, P. BROWER.

Canton, Okla., Sept. 28, '08.

Gentlemen:—In reply to your inquiry of recent date, will say, I planted the corn received from you about May 10th (which is very late for this country). I think every grain germinated. I planted on bottom land and the excessive and continuous rains so flooded the same as to completely destroy about two-thirds of the crop. What was left grew in the mud with very little cultivation. However, I have some splendid ears, which I shall plant in the spring. I think it did exceeding well for an unacclimated variety and under such adverse circumstances.

Respectfully yours,

T. W. MARTIN.

Luther, Okla.

Gentlemen:—In reply to your inquiry beg to state we were drowned out this Spring. I wish to say, however, your seed corn is good, for every kernel came through O. K. and what I had left standing in the field had some sort of ear upon it although some stalks were not larger than one's finger, the fault of the season and not of the corn. Am pleased with the trial though a failure.

Truly yours, GEO. L. HARRIS.

Tahlequah, Okla., Oct. 5th, 1908.

Gentlemen:—I am in receipt of your favor of the 24th and in reply will say that I have been fairly successful in growing your seed corn this year, considering the season. We have a very late cold, wet spring and after I got my corn planted and it had come up nicely, we had a very heavy frost which bit it all to the ground and stunted it somewhat and after that it continued so wet and rainy up to the early part of the summer that we did not get to cultivate it properly and on top of all we had quite a drouth just at the time corn was needing rain, but in spite of all that I have some corn. I think it is a variety well adapted to this climate and I intend to plant my whole crop out of it the coming season. Trusting this gives you the desired information, I am,

Yours respectfully, J. W. ANTOINE.

FUNKS 90 DAY Earliest High Yielding Corn

WE have been breeding this variety since 1892 and now offer this strain from Ear No. Ph115 as the best combination of EARLY MATURITY and HIGH YIELDING quality that has thus far been propagated.

Performance Record of some of the Progeny of Ear No. Ph115

1905	1906	1907
Ear No. Ph115 Yield 97 Bu. per Acre	Ear No. Ph268 Yield 108.5 bu.	Ear No. Ph314, Yield 110 bu. Ear No. Ph316, Yield 112 bu.
	Ear No. Ph272 Yield 104 bu.	Ear No. Ph340, Yield 102 bu. Ear No. Ph334, Yield 106 bu. Ear No. Ph304, Yield 112 bu.
	Ear No. Ph274 Yield 112.6 bu.	Ear No. Ph306, Yield 108 bu. Ear No. Ph330, Yield 118 bu. Ear No. Ph346, Yield 111 bu.

Funks 90 Day corn has been bred with two points in view, **early maturity and high yield**.

In all other varieties early maturity means low yield.

In the Funks 90 Day variety, we have sought not to increase the size of ear, but rather increase the average number of ears per stalk.

This has resulted in making the corn of early maturity and has increased instead of decreased the yield per acre.

During the past year much of this corn was planted as late as June 25th to 30th but matured in fine shape before frost.

We recommend this variety for late planting in wet districts where excessive rains or floods have delayed the season.

A great deal of this corn was fed on our own farms this year by August 15, an exceptional performance in view of late planting.

As an **early feeding corn** Funks 90 Day has no equal.

For northern districts it makes an ideal silage, producing much more stalk and grain than any ordinary corn that can be planted, yet maturing early enough to be put in the silo before frost.

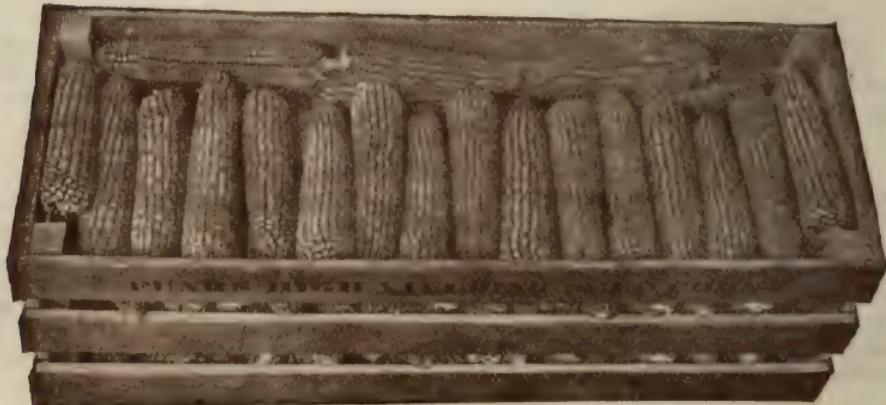
We offer this to the eastern farmer as the best early corn both for feeding and for ensilage.

For the southern farmer it takes the place of the once popular June corn.

PRICES.

On the Ear in Boxes, = = = \$5.00 per bushel
Shelled and in bags, = = = \$3.00 per bushel

SEE GREEN SHEETS FOR TERMS.



Funks Yellow Dent

Bred from J. L. Reids Yellow Dent

PEDIGREE OF STRAIN 76A.

	Breeding Block	Multiplying Field	General Field
	1906	1907	1908
See Previous Catalogs for Pedigrees Prior to 1906	Male Plant —— Female Plant Ear No. Ch545 Crossed onto O585 " " Ch553 Crossed onto O589 " " Ch547 Crossed onto Ch552 " " Ch549 Crossed onto Ch555 " " Ch551 Crossed onto Ch524 " " Ch509 Crossed onto O594 " " Ch511 Crossed onto O586 " " Ch521 Crossed onto O522 " " O572 Crossed onto Ch545 " " Ch554 Crossed onto Ch547 " " Ch546 Crossed onto Ch549 " " O524 Crossed onto Ch511 " " Ch513 Crossed onto Ch524 " " O503 Crossed onto O586 " " Ch550 Crossed onto O522 " " Ch544 Crossed onto Ch552	PLOT 76A	STRAIN 76A

This strain of Funks Yellow Dent No. 76A represents the results of the newest and most perfect system of corn breeding ever devised.

The absolute elimination of the unfit and the bringing together of the highest yielding strains is something that has hitherto never been accomplished by anyone save ourselves.

Funks Yellow Dent is as nearly drought resistant as any corn ever produced. During the past dry season (the driest in 20 years) Funks Yellow Dent on our own farms made yields of 60, 80 and 90 bushels per acre. Many of our customers who were favored with better growing seasons, made yields of 100 to 120 bushels per acre with this variety. Our customers this coming year will do even better on account of Strain 76A being a better producer than anything which we have sold before.

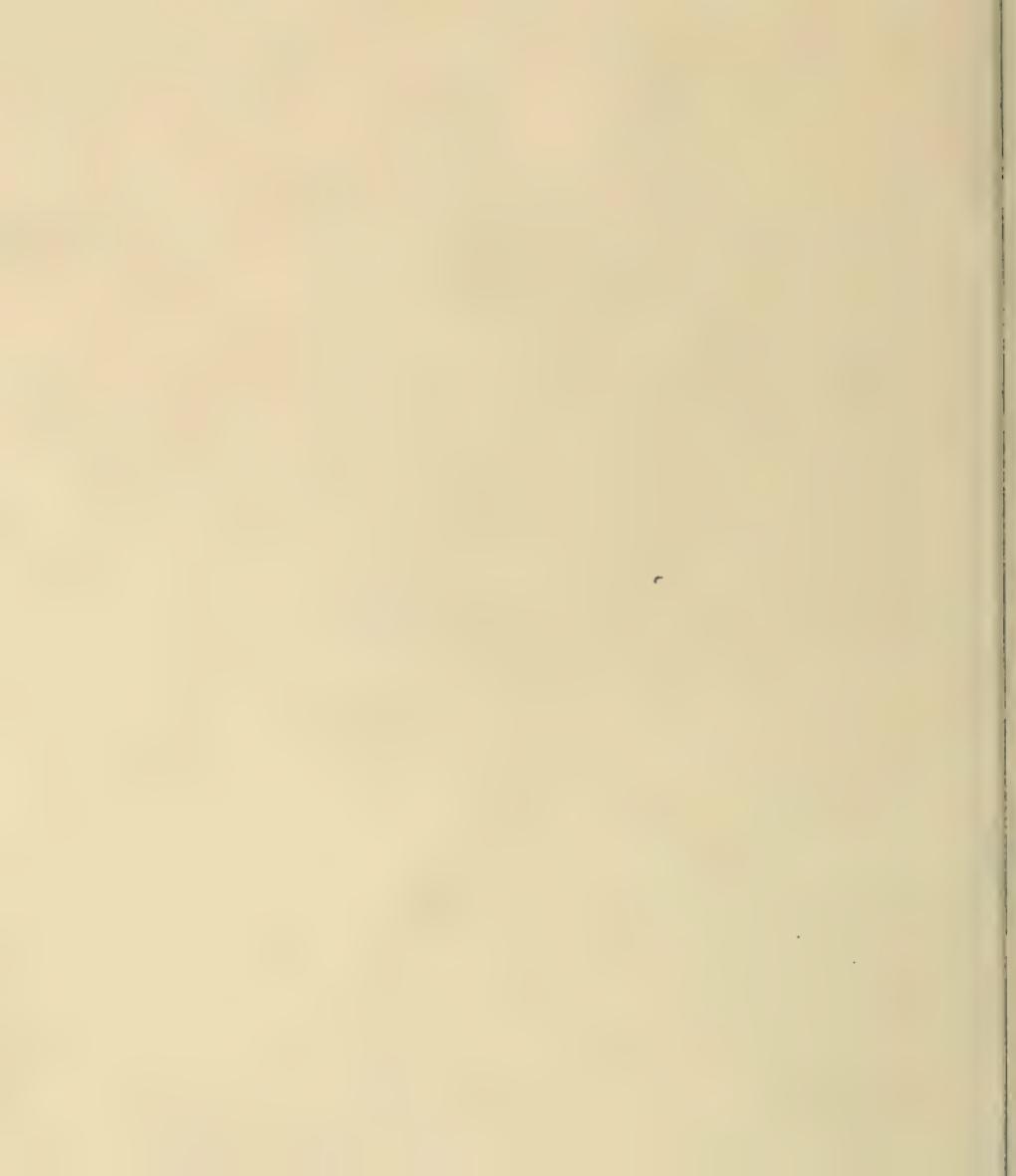
Funks Yellow Dent is now recognized as **The National Corn**, for the reason that it adapts itself to climatic changes quicker than any other variety.

We have proven by our own experiments and through the growing of our corn in **all** parts of the country by our customers, that change of **climate** affects the yield but little, if your **soil** is well balanced, containing the proper proportions of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash, our corn will give you the maximum yield per acre. Land containing an over proportion of nitrogen will cause corn to grow to stalk and will make the ears chaffy and immature.

PRICES OF FUNKS YELLOW DENT.

Strain 76A.

On the ear in boxes	\$5.00 per bushel.
Shelled and in bags	3.00 per bushel.





FUNKS YELLOW DENT THE NATIONAL CORN

DESCRIPTION: Ears 8 to 11 inches long, 7 to 8 inches in circumference, 18 to 24 rows of kernels, each row containing 50 to 60 kernels. The cob is small and carries a large amount of corn, shelling 88 to 90 per cent grain, medium early maturity, requiring from 110 to 120 days to fully mature, stalks 8 to 12 feet high, heavy below the ear, making it very resistant to the heaviest wind storms.

For full description of this Corn we refer to page 15.

Gold Standard Leaming

WE HAVE found it necessary to prefix our own name to this variety to distinguish it from the many imitations of Gold Standard Leaming which have been placed upon the market in the past six years. OUR Gold Standard Leaming is bred from the original J. S. Leaming corn which was originated in 1826.

In confining our offerings of this variety to one strain, we believe we are placing before you the best blood of the Leaming corn that has so far been produced,

We have changed the general type of this variety, breeding it richer in color, longer in kernel, and somewhat rougher in seed coat. We have greatly

Performance Record of some of the progeny of Ear No. P208

1903	1904	1905	1906	1907
Ear No. P208 Yield 95 bu. per Acre	Ear No. O343 Yield 129 bu.	Ear No. O434 Yield 112 bu.	Ear No. O541 Yield 117 bu.	Ear No. O611 Yield 106 bu.
	Ear No. O368 Yield 136 bu.	Ear No. O468 Yield 107 bu.	Ear No. O529 Yield 137 bu.	Ear No. O646 Yield 101 bu.
	Ear No. P344 Yield 94 bu.	Ear No. O409 Yield 103 bu.	Ear No. O503 Yield 117 bu.	Ear No. O642 Yield 101 bu.
		Ear No. P433 Yield 137 bu.	Ear No. Ch 547 Yield 123 bu.	Ear No. O639 Yield 131 bu.

increased its yielding capacity and have increased the oil and protein content until it has become an Ideal Feeders Corn.

The ears are from 8 to 11 inches long, $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 inches in circumference, weighing from 12 to 17 ounces each. The stalks range from 9 to 12 feet in height, with many large, broad leaves, making it the FINEST CORN FOR SILAGE.

We recommend this variety to Eastern farmers especially. Its value as a silage corn has been proven in New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and in fact through the entire eastern section.

The rich oil and protein content makes a silage of higher food value than any other corn. In the dairy districts where every foot of ground is valuable, it produces the greatest amount of nutriment per acre of any variety known. In certain sections of New York state where it was introduced a few years ago, no other variety, except our Funks 90 Day is grown.

Funks Gold Standard Leaming has made good as the best silage corn that can be planted.

To the Southwestern farmer, we advise the use of this corn for all around feeding purposes.

The medium rough kernels are just right for an animal to get a grip on and the ears if broken, just the right size for a good mouthful. The oil and protein content make it an ideal corn for fattening all kinds of cattle.



This Represents an Average Crate of Funks Gold Standard Leaming Corn, Packed in the Old Style Crate

PRICES ON FUNKS GOLD STANDARD LEAMING:

On the ear, in boxes \$5.00 per bushel
Shelled and in bags 3.00 per bushel

See Green Sheet for Terms.

Alva, Okla., Sept. 26, '08.

Gentlemen:—Replying to your favor of the 24th inst., will say that I got a poor stand of corn from the seed which I bought of you, caused, I think, by a cold wet Spring, assisted by ground squirrels. If the seed had been at fault, the stand would have been thin, but even as it is, on light soil, the stand is good, while on heavy, sticky soil there is hardly anything. The yield is much better than I expected, the ears are medium to large, well filled and firm stalk rather short with ears low. Wish to get a small quantity of some of your larger varieties for experimental purposes next year. Kindly send me your catalogue when ready.

Yours, W. A. HUSKINSON.

Coal Valley, Nov. 7, 1908.

Gentlemen:—Yours of the 6th inst. at hand. In regard to same will say that the corn purchased of you last spring done fine. It matured well and is yielding from 10 to 20 bushels per acre more than ordinary varieties. I can recommend your corn to any one looking for better than the common corn. I also want to thank you for your kind attention to my orders in the past.

Yours truly, JOHN BECK.

November 9th, 1908.

Gentlemen:—Our corn bought of your firm last Spring has made us a good crop considering the conditions of our fields when we planted. Our corn is making 45 bushels per acre, while our neighbors adjoining our fields are getting from 15 to 25 bushels. I want to tell you a little circumstance that proves to us that it paid us big to get seed from you. We had a neighbor who came to us after we had finished planting for some seed corn, he knowing that we had got fresh seed from you the year before. I told him I had a bushel of Funks Yellow Dent and about a peck of 90 Day left. I told him he could have it for what it cost me. He kicked on the price but could do no better. He took the seed and this is the way it turned out, this being the 14th corn crop in succession grown on the land. He tells me the ten acres of ground planted in the Funks Yellow Dent will make very nearly as much as the rest of the forty and the stalks are there to bear me out in this statement. You can notice the difference just as far as you can see the field and it was not planted until the 11th day of June. It is solid corn by the 15th of August. We were feeding our 90 Day Corn to our hogs and it was hard and the husks brown. This corn was planted the 17th day of May. We think more of 90 Day Corn than any early corn we ever raised and would not think of planting any less than half of our crop of the 90 Day Corn. This is all facts and no hot air.

Yours truly.

By selecting the seed corn for our customers before frost, we insure all who buy of us a perfect stand in their fields.

Littleton, Illinois, Nov. 9th, 1908.

Gentlemen:—Your inquiry received concerning the seed corn I got from you. Of course you know the climatic conditions under which it was raised. I planted part of the seed about the 20th of May, the rest was planted from the 8th to the 14th of June. It was all planted on clover sod, part of the land was black land rather flat, but pretty well tiled. This land had a coat of manure put on with a spreader. The rest was timbered land with 2nd crop of clover turned under. I lost about two acres on this land from wet. I think all of the corn was more or less affected with wet weather. Now as to results, first, it yielded from 55 to 61 bushels of the soundest corn I ever raised. I believe the timber land will beat that some, on the part I had left from drowning. This is hardly as sound as the other but still it is sounder than most of other varieties. I have seen but little corn that will yield with it. One of the fine features of it is the feeding qualities. When I feed the hogs they make a noise like eating coal. This seems to be from dryness and soundness and not from flintiness.

Respectfully, H. O. DENNIS.

Marshalltown, Ia., Nov. 9, 1908.

Gentlemen:—You wish to know how Funks Yellow Dent Corn yielded. I am pleased to inform you that it is the best corn I ever have raised. Have been in the business forty years. The corn is making something near 110 bushels per acre, counting one bushel per inch in common wagon box. It is certainly a good investment for me and got a perfect stand, this being the second crop being raised on this land. Last year corn made 80 bushels per acre. Wishing you continued success, I remain,

Very truly yours, W. F. SMITH.

Lemond, Ill., Nov. 7th, 1908.

Gentlemen:—In reply to yours of November 4, about seed corn, I got from you last Spring will say the seed corn grew fine and matured in 120 Days on high clay ground and averaged 40 bushels per acre or a little better than my own corn and was as good as any in my neighborhood. Had it not been for the heavy rains in the Spring, packing the ground so hard, I think I would have had a larger crop of corn. I am pleased with the corn.

Yours truly, J. B. WAGNER.

Paris, Ill., Nov. 10th, 1908.

Gentlemen:—Yours of the 4th inst. received some days ago. In regard to the seed corn, it did all right. On account of the dry season we had no good corn, but the corn we got of you did as well as any or a little better. Will try it again next year. Thanking you for your favor, we are,

Truly yours, C. H. WADE.

Gentlemen:—In reply to your inquiry concerning the Yellow Dent Seed Corn, I ordered from you last Spring, for myself and brother, would say we are well pleased with the crop it has produced. The ears of corn are filled out plump and solid and the yield is very satisfactory.

Mt. Pleasant, Ia., Nov. 12, 1908. Very respectfully, W. E. PARRETT.

By drying our seed corn, we not only preserve the germination, but cause an increase in the yield per acre of from 9 to 37 bu. according to the kind of seed planted in competition with our dried corn



BOONE COUNTY SPECIAL

Performance Record of some of the Progeny of Ear O103.

Ear O103 Yield 91 Bu. per Acre.	Ear O207 Yield 144 bu.	Ear O325 Yield 102 bu.	Ear O413 Yield 110 bu.	Ear O538 Yield 100 bu.	O622-105 bu.
					O662-105 bu.
	Ear O201 Yield 133 bu.	Ear O304 Yield 120 bu.	Ear O445 Yield 125 bu.	Ear O540 Yield 99 bu.	O688-114 bu.
					O627-105 bu.
				Ear O516 Yield 104 bu.	O655-132 bu.
					O641-105 bu.
				Ear O576 Yield 106 bu.	O683-105 bu.
					O661-112 bu.

BEIEVING 0103 to be the highest yielding strain of Boone County Special which we can offer our customers this year, we have confined ourselves to this strain and in offering it to you, do so with our strongest endorsement.

General Description of this Variety:

A high yielding white corn of extra large size, ears 8 to 12 inches long, $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, 18 to 26 rows of kernels. Ears weigh from 12 to 18 ounces when dry. The cob is medium to large and pure white in color. Medium late in maturity, adapted for any place south of the 41st parallel.

Boone County Special has proven to be the highest yielding white corn ever produced.

By our work we have reduced the number of weak and unproductive stalks to a minimum and increased the average size of ear to the maximum.

Our corn is first bred to yield.

This corn was dried by artificial heat to hold the germination at its greatest vigor, not to mature the corn.

The ear corn is the best that has ever been placed on the market.

The "shellers" are butted, tipped, and screened to provide uniformity and to make your "stand" of corn as nearly perfect as possible.

PRICES:

On the ear, in boxes	\$5.00 per bushel
Shelled and in bags	\$3.00 per bushel

See Green Sheet for Terms.



By a system of mating of individually strong plants, we carry the transmission of high yielding power to the finest point of concentration

Frankford, Pa., Nov. 9, 1908.

Gentlemen:—Your letter of the 4th received. In reply will say that I planted 20 acres with your seed corn; one field I manured and the other one I did not. The manured field did very well, having the best yield and the best corn I ever raised. The other field which was not manured did fairly well but not nearly so good as the first mentioned. It was late in the maturing but I think it will be allright. My farmer thinks I had the best corn in the locality. I am very much pleased with it and shall order from you again when I am in need of seed. Thanking you for your interest in the matter, I am,

Yours truly,

J. T. HAMMOND, Sr.

By planting these mated ears together in a single plot we start the increase of our highest yielding strains toward a commercial basis.

Marion, Ohio, Nov. 10, '08.

Gentlemen:—Replying to yours of the 11th inst. in regard to the success I may have had with the seed corn purchased from you last Spring will say: The corn yielded 65 bu. per acre, which is far above the average in this locality this year. I hardly gave the corn a fair test as this was the third crop on this land. This is something I have never done before, raise corn three years in succession on the same land, but it just came so this year that I almost had to do so. Then this year here, as in many other places, the corn did not have rain enough in the latter part of the season to make a real good crop as to quantity, but the quality was excellent, nearly every ear of this corn was merchantable. The objection I have to this corn for this locality is that it is a little late in maturing here, and grows a little large in the fodder. However neither objection is serious, and can be remedied by selection of seed for this locality. I am well satisfied with the corn. Very truly yours, M. WADDELL.

Raymond, Ill., Nov. 11, '08.

Gentlemen:—Yours of the 4th at hand and contents noted. In reply will say that the Funks Yellow Dent which I bought of you last Spring has given entire satisfaction. On account of the wet Spring I did not get it planted until the early part of June, it matured thoroughly and will make between 60 and 70 bushels per acre. It will yield more than the most of the corn in this vicinity. It is a fine quality of corn.

Yours truly, A. E. WITT.

By making this selection early we secure only the earliest and most mature ears to plant in our general fields to grow seed corn for our customers.

Anamosa, Ia., Nov. 9, '08.

Gentlemen:—Your letter of inquiry in regard to seed corn purchased of you last spring received. I thought I had a pretty good kind of corn of my own but it does not compare with that purchased of you. Mine was well filled out at tip but at the butt end of the ear was lacking and lacked uniformity and "good" seed ears were few and far between. A merchant here a year ago this fall offered premiums for the best 10 ears of corn and also 2nd and 3rd best 10 but did not think mine good enough to compete. The corn raised from seed I purchased from you is very fine. Ears were well filled out at butt and tip (butt especially) and very uniform, a bushel of ears being as near alike as a pod of peas. Could pick plenty of seed without much searching as to yielding, it was the best of any I had, but had a little better chance as it was on sod and my first planting, and on high ground. A good deal of corn here on low ground is soft on account of being backward and an early frost. Corn down very bad and growing. Cannot give yield on that purchased of you as it was on a small piece next to my hog lot and they were in it and thinned it out. I let the shoats "hog it down" except some on the farther side of the piece where I gathered my seed from. Have 15 bushels of seed from it hanging up and will give it a further test as to maturing quality. A number have told me it is too big and from too far south to mature well here. Reid's Yellow Dent does not mature well here some seasons, as a number have tried it. This was a bad year for corn here but thus far am satisfied with your corn and shall plant a larger acreage of it the coming year. Have a corn show here this fall and may compete as I think I will have a better chance with your corn. Yours, S.H. LAWRENCE, R.F.D.No.1.

Chestnut, Ill., Nov. 10, 1908.

Gentlemen:—In regard to the corn I got of you last Spring will say it has given the best of satisfaction. It is yielding about seventy bushels per acre. Although it wasn't planted until May 26th, it has fully matured and is the solidest corn I have ever seen.

Yours truly,

Edgewood, Ill., Nov. 12, 1908.

Gentlemen:—I was well pleased with the corn and had good results with it. It matured early. I gathered my seed corn the first of September. My corn made 40 bushels per acre and my neighbors made from 15 to 30 bushels per acre. They laughed at me when I got the corn last Spring but they did not this Fall. I have sold several bushels of seed corn already.

Yours truly, GEO. HAWKY.

Lyndon, O., Nov. 11, 1908.

Gentlemen:—Yours of the 4th inst. received. Replying would say that I had very good success with the corn. Am husking it now, the yield is 75 bushels of 75 pounds. Would have been better but cut worms damaged one-half of field badly, making stand thin and corn late, matured well where not bothered with worms. My own corn yielded well, but not quite so mature, I think. Am well satisfied with the corn.

Yours truly, E. T. JACKSON.

By making a strict plant selection, we bring only the best and highest yielding ears into our general fields.

O A T S

Funks Great American

FOR the second time, we offer our customers a limited quantity of our **Funks Great American Seed Oats**. Although this has been an exceedingly poor oat year, our stock of this variety is bright and heavy—quite a contrast to our last years stock.

Funks Great American have proved their fitness again this year under the most adverse conditions. The yield though small as compared with other years, shows an increase of 50% to 100% over the other standard varieties.

The following table gives the results for the past six years:

Varieties	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1908	6 yr. Aver.
	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Yield	Yield
Funks Great American	1	1	1	1	1	1	34.	52.2
Silvermine	3	4	2	5	3	4	24.	43.5
Big 4	10	3	4	2	5	5	23.5	42.2
Amer. Banner	12	7	12	3	11	2	26.5	41.0
Great Dakota	5	2	8	4	9	10	18.	40.8
Musselshell	7	5	9	6	12	9	18.3	39.8
Quaker	2	12	13	7	4	13	16.	38.5
Montana Late	4	9	10	9	2	12	16.3	37.6
Wessels Wonder	6	6	11	14	7	7	20.2	37.5
Tartar King	8	8	5	15	10	6	23.	36.5
Red Rust Proof	11	14	6	8	13	3	25.	35.7
Wisconsin No. 4	9	10	14	10	8	11	17.8	33.8
Clydesdale	13	13	15	11	15	14	15.8	33.3
Probstier	14	15	7	13	14	8	19.0	32.5

*Goldmine not tested—1908.

You will note by the above table that Funks Great American have yielded 8.7 bushels per acre more each year than their nearest competitor and 18.7 bushels more than the lowest yielding variety on the list. A gain of 18.7 bushels per acre per year for six years equals a gain of 112.2 bushels per acre. The average farmer sows 40 acres of oats. In six years this gain would amount to 4488 bushels at 35c or \$1570.80. Will you lose this amount in the next six years? Most certainly not if you sow Funks Great American Seed Oats.

This variety, as we announced in last year's catalogue, originated from a single head of oats which was so prominent on account of its size of head, size of berry and length of straw that it was at once selected as being a probable winner.

Oats being a self-fertilized plant not open to wind or natural cross fertilization, it is a much easier matter to make straight selections that breed true to type than it is to make the same selections in corn.

The seed of this single head was saved and selections of like heads made each year until sufficient was had to sow a half acre test plot, and it was then grown in competition with other well known varieties shown on this page.

One year's test was sufficient to show that this was going to be an unusual variety. The five years since then have already confirmed it.

This variety is not an experiment. We have shown others and can show you what it will do under the unfavorable conditions of the corn belt.

Through every kind of season, it has outyielded all of the old standard varieties.

The following is one of the many testimonials which we have received this year. Lack of space prohibits our giving more.

Funk Bros. Seed Co.,
Bloomington, Ill.

Plainview, Ill., July 10, 1908.

Gentlemen: Have tried your Great American White Oats, and found them all that you recommended them to be. These oats are very heavy and should turn out a yield in excess of fifty bushels. I have not threshed them but expect to do so some time next week.

Yours truly, W. T. BAIRD.

This variety is of medium early maturity, ripening about July 6th to 10th, according to the season. It produces large white grains of exceedingly heavy weight. The straw is medium heavy but the rooting system is so developed as to make this variety almost free from lodging. In other words, you need have no fear of its blowing down. Considering the yield, quality of grain, and quality of straw produced by Funks Great American you can do no better than to sow them. The increased yield will more than pay you back your investment in one year. And remember this, that these oats can be bought only direct from us. No other seed house can offer them to you.

All oats are thoroughly screened and fanned to preserve only the heaviest seeds. The stock seed of this variety was treated with a formalin solution which makes the oats absolutely free from smut for at least two years.

Our stock of this variety is of good quality, much better than that of last year. We promise you a germination of 95% or better or money refunded. Sow Funks Great American this year for an increased yield.

Send for Samples.

PRICES—BAGS FREE.

1 to 5 bushel.....	\$1.25 per bushel
5 to 15 "	1.15 " "
15 to 50 "	1.00 " "
50 to 500 "	.90 " "

Our supply of this variety is very limited. We ask that you place your order early in order that you may be supplied.

If any seed bought from Funk Bros. Seed Co. are not satisfactory return them at once at our expense.

The opening of branch houses in New York and Dallas means a great saving in cost to our patrons in the east and in the south.

In our new shipping package, we have arranged to save you every loss that was common in the old style crate.

On account of our system of inspection, it is impossible that we should ship out anything but the highest class of high class seed corn, saving you time, trouble and annoyance, to say nothing of expense.

By our system of butting and tipping, screening and grading, we have for seed corn only the most uniform kernels ready for the planter box.

Garton Bros SEED OATS

IN listing a new variety of oats, not of our own breeding or growing, we believe a short explanation is due our customers who are accustomed to see only our brands of seeds catalogued in this book. This is a radical move for us and a departure from our established policy of handling no seeds except those bred by us and grown on our own farms.

We believe, however, that our knowledge of the "Garton Methods" and the results which have been obtained by those who have sown the Swedish Select Oats in this country, warrant us in listing these oats and in giving them our highest recommendations.

Garton Bros. Ltd. of Warrington, have long occupied the same position in England that Funk Bros. have in America, namely, that of the premier breeders of all varieties of field seeds. It is only natural therefore that sooner or later these two firms should join forces in presenting to the farmers of America the best that English scientific methods have produced.

In the Spring of 1907, Mr. T. R. Garton came to this country with a plan in view of establishing a branch house in America.

He was advised by all the prominent men with whom he conferred to "See Funk Bros."

He then called on us with a proposition to handle Garton Bros. Oats for the season of 1908.

In our usual conservative way we of course refused to take up the matter until we had fully investigated every detail of the "Garton System" and further demanded that a thorough test be made in this country to demonstrate their adaptability to our soils and climate.

Our manager went to England in the summer of 1907 and spent a month at Acton Grange and Warrington in investigating and corroborating all that had been told us concerning the Garton Methods.

Needless to say he found everything as represented. Did space permit, we should like to give here a copy of his report, a report which was full of enthusiasm for the work of the Garton Bros.

The breeding methods used at Acton Grange are far in advance of any similar work in England or on the continent. Their machines for cleaning and preparing the seeds are better than anything in America. In fact nothing is lacking in their establishment to produce the best seeds, not only pure in breeding, but mechanically pure and free from weed seeds.

In offering the Regenerated Swedish Select Oats to our customers, we guarantee them absolutely pure in every respect.

A Guarantee That Binds

We guarantee our Pedigree Grain to be perfectly graded, clean, and absolutely free from WILD OATS or WEED SEED, and that all orders shall be filled exactly to sample. If desired, we will ship all orders of 4 bushels and up C.O.D. subject to inspection before making payment. The purchaser has the right to return at our expense if this guarantee is not fulfilled.

The Garton Seed Co.

1908



Regenerated Swedish Select Oats

The Earliest Large Grained Oats
In America!

The Heaviest Yielding Oats In
America!

The Thinnest Skinned Oats In
America!

The Strongest Strawed Oats In
America!

SWEDISH SELECT OATS (original stock) were first introduced into America about twelve years ago, where their success was at once phenomenal. Years of continuous inbreeding however (such as is common to all oats) have reduced its vitality very considerably, until crops grown from the seed of original Swedish Select have deteriorated to the low level of native varieties. To bring back this Oat to its original state of productiveness our System of Regeneration has been applied by mating plants of ordinary Swedish Select grown in America and England respectively, and while the original character has been preserved, infusion of new blood has had a remarkable effect, and in trials wherein the progeny thus obtained, which is termed Regenerated, has actually yielded from 20 to 40 per cent more than the original stock when tested under precisely similar conditions. Farmers will thus appreciate, when sowing oats, that they should grow this Regenerated Stock, although the initial expense may be a little more than ordinary seed, yet it must be remembered that it costs no more to grow this Regenerated Stock than the ordinary, whereas the yields at harvest time more than amply repays for the investment and they have the great satisfaction of knowing they have good seed for sowing the following season. The remarkable success achieved by the Regenerated Swedish Select, which was grown in America for the first time last year, has encouraged us very much, and we shall from now on place before the American farmer still more wonderful improvements in farm plants through the Garton System of Farm Plant Breeding.

PRICES—BAGS FREE.

4 bu. (32 lbs.) at \$3.00 per bu. 50 bu. (32 lbs.) at \$2.25 per bu.
8 bu. (32 lbs.) at \$2.50 per bu. 100 bu. (32 lbs.) at \$2.00 per bu.

Our Regenerated Swedish Select Oats, 1909 stock, are shipped in bags of 2 bushels each, sealed by our own leaden seal, bearing the name of the Garton Seed Co. See that every bag bears this firm's seal. None Genuine without this.

Read what real live American farmers say who have grown field crops of the Regenerated Swedish Select Oats in 1908 from seed supplied by Garton Bros.

Best Piece of Oats Seen for Many a Year; 75 Bushels per Acre.

Your Regenerated Swedish Select Oat yielded 75 bushels to the acre. They **ripened ten days ahead of ordinary oats.** My opinion is the same as my neighbors who say **I had the best piece of oats seen for many a year.** My only regret is that I did not purchase enough seed from you to plant my entire acreage. I would have been money ahead at regular prices, but could have made big money by selling it as seed.

When I decide how many acres I shall put into oats next year, will purchase enough seed from you to fill out with what Regenerated Seed I now have, as **I want all in your oats in the future.**

ELON J. VAN FLEET, Joliet, Illinois.

Good Yielders—Stiff Straw.

I am of the opinion that the new oat, **Regenerated Swedish Select**, is well adapted to this locality on account of **stiffness of straw**, and is a very good yielder. My crop of Regenerated Swedish Select went **75 bushels to the acre, testing 45 lbs. to the bushel**, against the ordinary oats which yielded about 45 bushels to the acre, testing 36 lbs. to the bushel.

JESSE PHILLIPS, Elizabeth, Illinois.

More Than Doubled Yield of Ordinary Oats.

It is impossible to judge from one season, especially this year, but we believe they will **do exceptionally well.** Oats through this section are not making more than 25 bushels on the average, and probably not this. **Your Regenerated Swedish Select went 60 bushels per acre.**

HOPESTON CANNING CO., Hooperston, Illinois.

Just the Oats for Central Illinois.

I think these oats will be **the oats for Central Illinois.** All people who saw them think they were very fine oats. They grew better, stood up straight, no rust to speak of, while other common oats were all down and eaten up by rust, and acres of common oats were not cut at all. My yield was **40 bushels off seven-eighths of an acre**, against 23 bushels of common oats, and weighs 6 lbs. per bushel heavier.

OWEN BEAVER, Lincoln, Illinois.

Five Days Earlier Than Ordinary Oats.

My crop Regenerated Swedish Select Oats were **five days earlier** in maturing than ordinary oats, yielded **60 bushels to the acre, testing 40 lbs. to the bushel**, while my ordinary oats yielded 40 bushels to the acre, testing about 30 lbs. to the bushel. I am **more than pleased** with results obtained.

JNO. F. LYONS, La Salle, Illinois.

Sown a Week Later—Harvested a Week Earlier.

Regenerated Swedish Select Oats were sown a week later and harvested a week earlier than common oats. My yield was **71 bushels to the acre testing 42 lbs. to the stroke measure.** I think that they are very good oats to raise in this part of the country. The straw is strong and carries the grain in good shape.

J. W. SCOTT, Marengo, Illinois.

Can Sell all of Mine for \$1.00 per Bushel for Seed.

I can recommend the Regenerated Swedish Select very highly. I have a chance to sell all of mine for \$1.00 per bushel.

R. G. CLEGG, Minonk, Illinois.

New Oats Yield 67 Bushels per Acre; Ordinary Oats Yield 45 Bushels.

I am glad to have you know what good results I have had from your Regenerated Oats. I took **your advice** and sowed them thickly. All the time they were growing they appear d good to me; and although the Regenerated Oats were quite as early as my original stock, they did not rust near so much. They yielded **67 bushels** per acre against **45 bushels** of my own oats; weight per bushel tested **35½ lbs.** right from the machine. **This statement can be verified by a Government Inspector.** I am going to sow all I have of the new oats next year.

FRED McCULLOCH, Belle Plaine, Iowa.

60 Bushels Per Acre Against 35.

The Regenerated Swedish Select had a **large straw and was more vigorous** than my common oats. My yield was 60 bushels per acre against 35 of my other variety.

W. W. YOUNG, North Liberty, Iowa.

Earlier—No Rust—Strong Straw— 62 Bushels Per Acre.

The Regenerated Swedish Select yielded **62 bushels per acre**, weighing **34 lbs.** Our other oats went 21 bushels of 32 lbs. They are **very satisfactory, earlier, no rust**, strong straw, which prevents lodging.

FLYNN FARM CO., DesMoines, Iowa.

Earliest to Harvest. Heaviest in Yield.

I sowed your Regenerated Swedish Oats at the rate of 4 bushels per acre. They were ready to cut before my other oats. The yield was **60 bushels** per acre by weight, testing **38 lbs.** against 29 lbs. of my other oats. My Silvermine went 23 bushels, Kershon 28 bushels.

GEORGE MINEAR, Vinton, Iowa.

Eclipse all Other Oats. New Oats Yield 60 Bushels, Ordinary Oats 35 Bushels.

I believe the new oats, Regenerated Swedish Select, is **going to eclipse** ordinary oats grown in this district by **at least one-half**. My yield was **60 bushels to the acre**, testing **35 lbs. to the bushel**, against ordinary oats 35 bushels to the acre, testing 30 lbs. to the bushel.

F. M. SNYDER, Robins, Iowa.

15 Bushels More Than Ordinary Oats.

My opinion of the Regenerated Swedish Select is it yielded **15 bushels** per acre **more** than my ordinary oats, also weighed **10 lbs. more** per bushel.

Wm McKITTRICH, Le Mars, Iowa.

Offered \$1.25 Per Bushel for Seed.

The growth of the Regenerated Swedish Select was **strong** and was a larger plant, the straw being six inches longer when harvested and **did not go down**. I was offered \$1.25 per bushel for this year's seed.

JAMES W. COUNSELL, Little Rock, Iowa.

Week Earlier.

Your Regenerated Swedish Select were a week earlier than Common Oats. They are the **finest oats in the country** and will sow all of them next year.

OTTO L. WILLIAMS, Hagerstown, Indiana.

40 Bushels. Other Oats 30 Bushels.

The Regenerated Swedish Select went 40 bushels per acre, other oats 30 bushels. They were **more vigorous, better color** and **earlier**. We like them.

J. E. GREEN, Muncie, Indiana.

Regenerated Swedish Select All Right.

The new breed Regenerated Swedish Select I believe is all right. It made **34 bushels per acre**. Our other oats went **24 bushels**.

Wm. R. EVANS, Ridgeville, Indiana.

30 Bushels; Other Oats 15 Bushels.

I think the new oats all right for this locality. The yield was **30 bushels** and our other oats 15 bushels.

JOHN B. JOHNSON, Rome, New York.

Harvested a Week Earlier—No Rust.

The Regenerated Swedish Select Oats were about **4 inches taller** and a **week earlier** than ordinary oats. I like them very well indeed. **They stood up well**, made splendid growth, and **did not rust**, while many later oats rusted badly on account of hot and dry weather, which prevailed during the growing season, except at seeding time, when it was so wet as to delay us nearly two weeks. My yield was **53 bushels** to the acre, testing **45 lbs.** to the measured bushel.

ALBERT J. CULVER, Westfield, New York.

"Most Wonderful Oats. Stood up Perfectly."

In spite of dry weather Regenerated Swedish Select Oats stood up perfectly, and yielded **60 bushels per acre**, testing **48 lbs. per bushel**. I think them the **most wonderful oats I have ever seen**.

W. A. JOHNSON, Berlin Center, Ohio.

Earlier, Stiffer Straw, Plumper Grain.

Your Regenerated Swedish Select was about **one week earlier** in heading out than my other oats, it made a better growth, a stiffer straw and a better, plumper grain. The yield was **65 bushels per acre** against **50 bushels** of my other oats.

FRANK A. SCHWIETERMANN, Montezuma, Ohio.

80 Bushels Compared to 60 Bushels of Other Oats.

The Regenerated Swedish Select were **2 or 3 days earlier**. They yielded 80 bushels per acre as compared to 60 bushels of my other oats. I think they will do well in this district.

GEO. C. PEADON, Monroeville, Ohio.



Red Clover of Good Quality, Natural Size and Magnified Eight Times

RED CLOVER

THE largest clover crop for many years has just been harvested. This means that every community will have a large quantity of clover seed for sale. Farmers will buy and sell among their neighbors to a certain extent. Do not be misled by the fact that clover is cheap at home. It may prove the most expensive clover you ever purchased.

We refer to the clover that comes direct from your neighbors without having been cleaned. It may contain a thousand different kinds of weed seeds which will pollute your farm. Buckhorn, the most common weed in Red Clover seed, is rapidly gaining ground all over the country. You can not be too careful about keeping this weed off of your farm. The farmer or the small dealer cannot separate this buckhorn from the clover for the reason that the two seeds are so nearly alike in size and weight. You cannot afford to take the risk by buying seed that has not been recleaned and is not **guaranteed free from buckhorn.**

We guarantee every bushel of our select recleaned clover seed quoted here to be free from buckhorn.

We are obtaining our clover from a source that makes it impossible that it could contain buckhorn even before it is recleaned by us. To insure you against getting even one grain of this obnoxious weed, we first clean the clover over a screen and wind machine, then over a special buckhorn machine.

This serves a double purpose, not only taking out ALL of the weed seeds but it also eliminates the smaller clover seeds which will neither germinate nor produce plants.

The clover seed which we offer is 1st—Free from weed seeds, insuring you a clean farm. 2nd—Contain only the heaviest, largest seeds, insuring you a high germination and a good stand of clover plants. If you want a clean field and growth of strong healthy plants, send to us for our selected recleaned clover seed.

Samples Sent on Application.

PRICES—SUBJECT TO MARKET FLUCTUATION.

\$7.00 per bushel

2 bushel Cotton bags 25c extra

1 bushel Cotton bags 15c extra



Imported Red Clover of Low Grade, Natural Size and Magnified Eight Times



ALFALFA

THE author believes in Alfalfa: he believes in it for the big farmer as a profit bringer in the form of hay, or condensed into beef, pork, mutton or products of the cow; but he has still more abiding faith in it as a mainstay of the small farmer, for feed for all his live stock and for maintaining the fertility of the soil.—F. D. COBURN.

"There are some silent subsoilers that do their work with ease, and in their way, more effectively than any team or plow ever hitched. The clover plant is righteously famed as one of these, but Alfalfa is its superior. Its roots work Sunday as well as Saturday, night and day: they strike down 5, 10, 15, or 20 feet deep, making innumerable perforations, while storing up nitrogen, and when these roots decay they leave not only a generous supply of fertility for any desired crop, but millions of openings into which the air and rain of heaven find their way, and help to constitute an unfailing reservoir of wealth, upon which the husbandman can draw with little fear of protests or overdrafts."

"Its long branching roots penetrate far down, push the earth this way and that, and thus constitute a gigantic subsoiler. These become an immense magazine of fertility. As soon as cut, they begin to decay and liberate the vast reservoir of fertilizing matter below the plow, to be drawn upon by other crops for years to come."

Alfalfa is the oldest plant known to man: it is the most valuable forage plant ever discovered. We are now growing it successfully in every state in the Union.—W. J. SPILLMAN, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, in an address before the National Hay Association.

"Eleven pounds of Alfalfa hay is worth as much for feeding purposes as ten pounds of bran."

"Alfalfa does not exhaust the soil, it obtains its nitrogen from the air."

I drilled Alfalfa in rows 18 inches apart and cultivated at intervals of ten days until the crop occupied the ground, seeding the 28th of March. The first cutting of nearly eight tons of green forage per acre was made nine weeks later. Thereafter, four additional cuttings were made that season, resulting in a total yield of 21 tons of green forage per acre.—A. F. NEALE, Director Delaware Experiment Station.

This station has grown Alfalfa for 12 years and we have never found it necessary to inoculate when we have sown the seed on rich, well prepared land.—PROF. R. J. REDDING, Director Georgia Experiment Station.

Very careful and extensive investigations conducted by the Experiment Station beginning in 1901, have positively established the fact that Alfalfa can be grown in this state on several of our most abundant types of soil.—PROF. C. G. HOPKINS, Illinois Experiment Station.

We are receiving very good results from the Alfalfa which is being grown at this station, making from 3 to 4 cuttings each season with the yield ranging from 4 to 7 tons to the acre.—PROF. M. L. BOWMAN, Iowa Experiment Station.

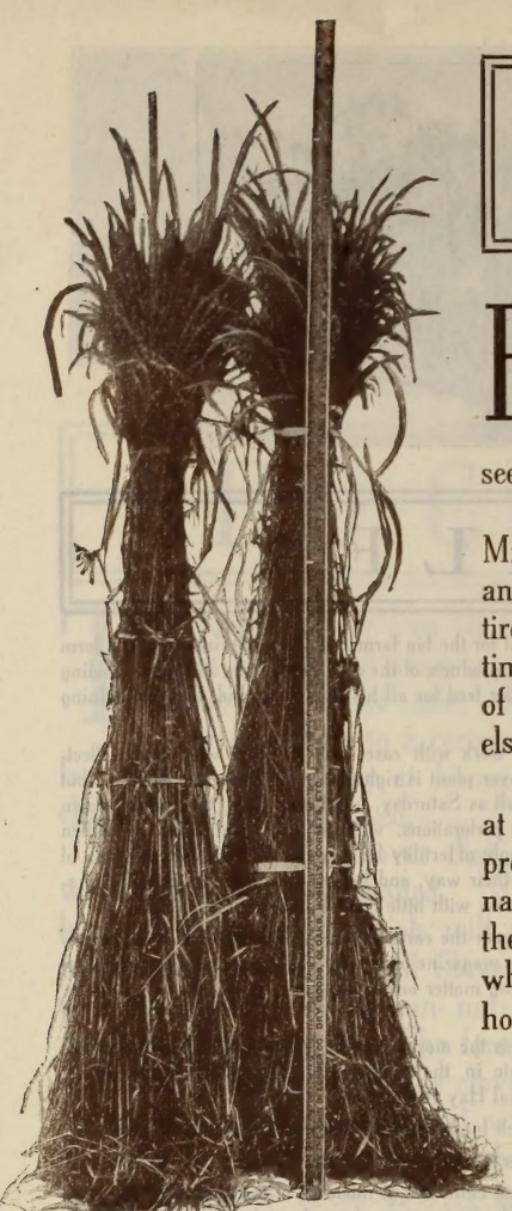
We have grown Alfalfa on the Experiment Station farm for a good many years and have been impressed by its many good qualities.—PROF. H. GARMAN, Kentucky Experiment Station.

We are indebted to "The Book of Alfalfa" by F. D. COBURN, published by the Orange Judd Publishing Co., for the information and photographs on this page.

For prices and Special Offer of Alfalfa seed see page 30.



Timothy



HOME grown timothy is plentiful this year. There is no reason therefore for buying anything but Illinois grown seed.

Although we have handled Iowa, Missouri and Kansas grown timothy and our customers have found it entirely satisfactory, we believe that the timothy seed grown in this section is of better quality than that grown elsewhere.

In obtaining our timothy seed here at home we are better able to store it properly during the dangerous period, namely right after threshing, when the seed is somewhat green and damp, which it is bound to be regardless of how well it matured and how well it was cured in the field.

Instead of heaping the seed into large bins where it cannot help but heat and deteriorate in germinative value, we sack it and give ample

ventilation until thoroughly cured and dried.

Many people wonder why they do not obtain satisfactory stands of timothy. The chief reason in the greatest number of cases is poor germinative value. Practically all the timothy seed that is of low germination has been bin burned soon after threshing.

Much money has been lost in timothy seed on this account but now that the cause has been removed by us, it is up to you to remove the effect of poor timothy seed by buying of us.

We quote you—Choice recleaned, high germinating timothy seed at \$2.50 per bushel of 45 pounds, F. O. B. Bloomington, New York, or Dallas.

2 bushel Cotton bags	25c extra
1 bushel Cotton bags	15c "

We offer only the best grade of high germinating Alfalfa seed, free from buckhorn, at the following prices:

1 to 10 bushels	=	=	\$11.00 per bushel
10 bushels or over	=	=	10.50 per bushel
2 bushel cotton bags	=	=	.25c extra
1 bushel cotton bags	=	=	.15c extra

SPECIAL OFFER—With every order of 10 bushels or over for Alfalfa seed, we will give FREE a copy of F. D. Coburn's "THE BOOK OF ALFALFA." This book for sale at \$2.00 net



Live Stock Department

TH E L I V E S T O C K D E P A R T M E N T O F F U N K B R O S . S E E D C O M P A N Y is one of the main spokes in the wheel that is necessary to the success of a constantly increasing business. "Always to the front with market toppers and premium winners." We make that assertion and are able to prove our ability as breeders and feeders by our accomplishments.

At the International Live Stock Show, Chicago, 1908, our Live Stock Department won—

T H E G R A N D C H A M P I O N S H I P for carload lots of fat cattle with our load of 2-year-old **A N G U S S T E E R S**.

This is the second time we have won the **G R A N D C H A M P I O N S H I P** on carload lots of fat cattle. In 1906 our load of Grand Champions sold for the **h i g h e s t p r i c e e v e r p a i d** in the Chicago market for a carload of cattle on the hoof.

In 1907 we won the **G R A N D C H A M P I O N** prize on carcass for hogs of all breeds and weights with 3 Chester White Barrows.

This is the **s e c o n d** time we have won the **G R A N D C H A M P I O N** prize on carcass over all breeds at Chicago.

W E H A V E W O N four Grand Champion prizes at Chicago in two years on cattle and hogs, besides establishing a new high mark for the sale of cattle on the hoof.

At the **I N T E R N A T I O N A L L I V E S T O C K E X P O S I T I O N S** of 1904-05-06-07-08, we have won 65 prizes on cattle, sheep and hogs, besides **F O U R G R A N D C H A M P I O N S A N D F O U R C H A M P I O N S**.

This is the record for one firm or individual.

Shropshire Sheep

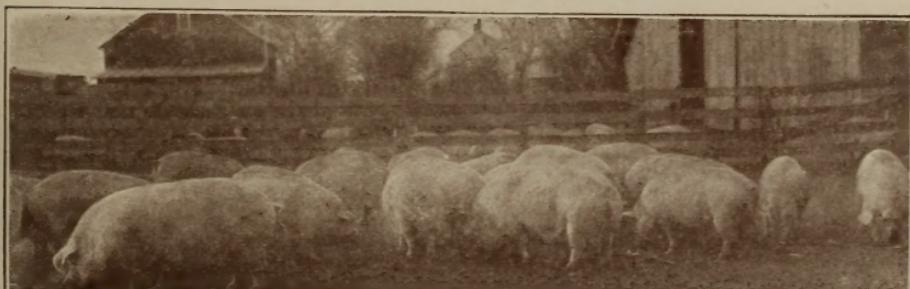
We breed Shropshire Sheep because we have found them to be popular and the best all around mutton and wool producers for the farmer to handle. Our flock consists of imported rams and ewes of our own importation and foundation stock from the leading breeders of England, Canada, and the United States—Mansell, Minton, Nocks, Gwynne, Cartwright, Gibson, Davisson, and other flocks represented. Ewes, ewe lambs, rams and ram lambs for sale, both registered and unregistered stock.

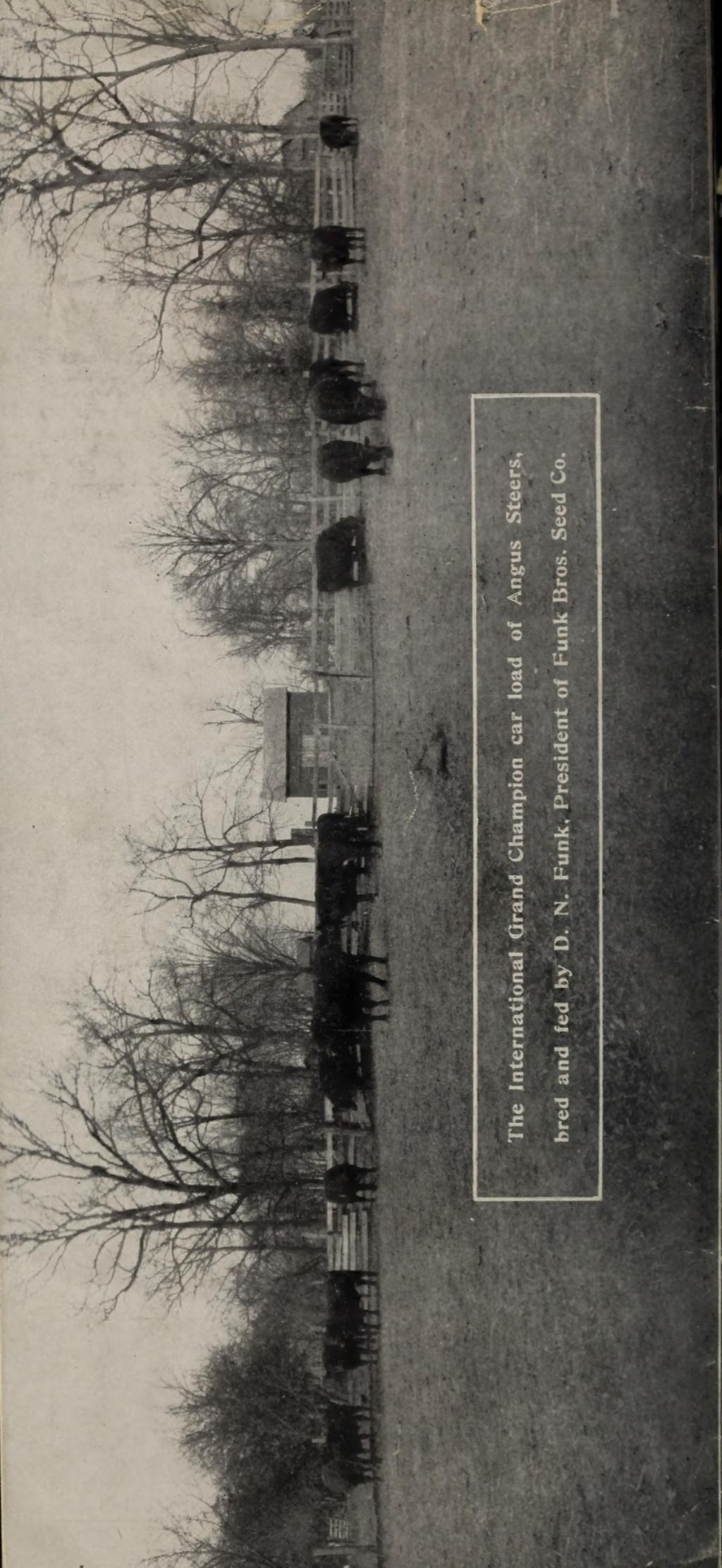
Chester White Hogs
Our herd consists of over 300 head—many of our sows are sired by and bred to State and World's Fair premium winners. The Chester white is prolific, strong bone, good broad back, excellent mothers and produce the choicest meat. When crossed with other breeds, they always mark their offspring white and make market toppers. Bred sows, gilts, and male hogs old enough for service for sale.

Space does not permit, in a seed catalogue, to go into details of our work in live stock breeding. Those interested should visit our farms and personally inspect the stock we have to offer and we shall be pleased to afford every facility for such examination. We invite correspondence from those unable to visit us. Kindly state your wants plainly to avoid extra correspondence and delay.

O u r M o t t o : " I T P A Y S T O B R E E D T H E B E S T . "

L i v e S t o c k D e p t . F U N K B R O S . S E E D C O . , B l o o m i n g t o n , I l l i n o i s





The International Grand Champion car load of Angus Steers,
bred and fed by D. N. Funk, President of Funk Bros. Seed Co.